

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Greg J. Nelson
Attorney for Applicant(s)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/726,217
Applicant : Alan John Smith et al.
Filed : December 2, 2003

TC/A.U. : (not yet assigned)
Examiner : (not yet assigned)

Docket No. : 3146.2.46

Customer No. : 21552

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement disclosing information which has come to the attention of applicants and/or their attorneys and is being submitted so as to comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), the enclosed Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-identified application or before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits.

Neither applicants nor their attorneys make any representation that any information disclosed herein may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103. Moreover, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or as an admission that the

information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Accordingly, we are not enclosing copies of the references.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, transmitted herewith are:

1. A completed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant" listing the patents, publications and other information being submitted for consideration; and
2. A legible copy of each patent, publication and other item of information in written form listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A (for applications filed after June 30, 2003), except for copies of U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications which are not required for applications filed after June 30, 2003.

As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A are not required and, therefore, not included herewith.

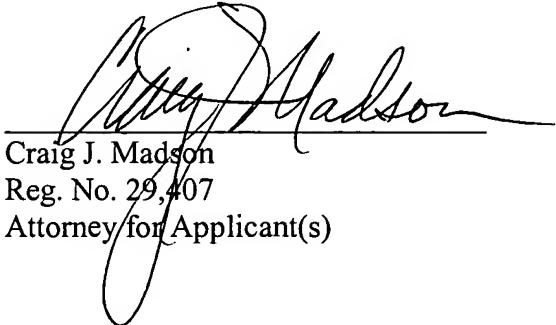
CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

I hereby certify that no item of information listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

I hereby certify that each item of information listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: February 2, 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

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| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number | 10/726,217 |
| Filing Date | December 2, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Alan John Smith |
| Group Art Unit | |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 3146.2.46 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials * | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Number - Kind Code ² (# known) | | | |
| U1 | US-2,596,594 | | May 13, 1952 | Petre | |
| U2 | US-2,641,478 | | June 9, 1953 | Sigg | |
| U3 | US-3,114,401 | | Dec. 17, 1963 | Johnson | |
| U4 | US-4,448,097 | | May 15, 1984 | Rocca | |
| U5 | US5,450,775 | | Sep. 19, 1995 | Kozak | |
| U6 | US-5,533,429 | | Jul. 9, 1996 | Kozak | |
| U7 | US-5,819,612 | | Oct. 13, 1998 | Anderson | |
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| U13 | US-6,260,980 | | Jul. 17, 2001 | Ping | |
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| U16 | US-6,352,010 | | Mar. 5, 2002 | Giarritta, et al. | |
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| U18 | US-6,408,723 | | June 25, 2002 | Zurbuchen | |
| U19 | US-6,425,307 | | Jul. 30, 2002 | Chen | |
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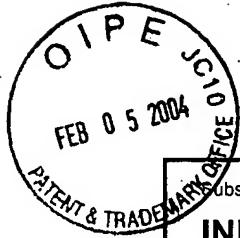
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet 2 of 2

Complete if Known

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| Application Number | 10/726,217 |
| Filing Date | December 2, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Alan John Smith |
| Group Art Unit | |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 3146.2.46 |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| | | Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If known) | | | | |
| | F1 | GB403,769 UK | Jan. 4, 1934 | Hibbard | | |

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